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2 February 1967

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT : Further Justification for the Granting of Operational Clearances [REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] work on the derivation of an image quality measure to correlate with interpretability will involve a thorough knowledge of all factors known to degrade photographic reconnaissance results. It is imperative that he be made aware of such specific acquisition problems as image motion compensation and optical modulation which are unique to the various deployed satellite collection systems. Only then will he be capable of assessing accurately the range of (causal) factors influencing the particular imagery with which NPIC deals.

2. It will be required that [REDACTED] discuss such problems with representatives of [REDACTED] which builds the KH-4 camera system, and [REDACTED] which builds the KH-7 system. Only through such discussions will he become familiar enough with the critical imaging parameters involved to efficiently perform the task expected of him under the TDS [REDACTED] contract. Thus it is essential that he be granted the "C" [REDACTED] clearances respectively for need-to-know reasons alone.

3. Additionally, because many of the personnel at [REDACTED] responsible for collection system design do not possess the T-K-SI clearances, [REDACTED] would find his clearances already held at that level virtually useless in such a situation.

4. A further reason for the granting of operational clearances to a [REDACTED] representative is that other exploitation human factors problems connected with acquisition parameters are expected to come up in the future. To date, only [REDACTED] has been able to treat such questions as optimal convergence, obliquity, etc., but [REDACTED] capabilities should also be utilized eventually in the consideration of such system configuration-associated problems.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

NRO review(s) completed.

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SUBJECT: Further Justification for the Granting of Operational Clearances [redacted]

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5. In summary, it may be said without doubt that unless [redacted] is granted the requested clearances, the [redacted] program as currently planned will be severely inhibited. In addition, unless such clearances are forthcoming, NPIC will be continually forced into a sole source situation for the solution of many future acquisition-related questions.

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Assistant for Technical Development, NPIC

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NPIC/TDS/DS: [redacted] (2 Feb. 67)

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(CONTINUED)

[illegible]